



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY MEDICAL COMMAND
2050 WORTH ROAD
FORT SAM HOUSTON, TEXAS 78234-6000

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

OTSG/MEDCOM Policy Memo 05- 008

MCCS

06 JUN 2005

Expires On Reissuance of New VA/DoD MOA

MEMORANDUM FOR Commanders, Regional Medical Commands

SUBJECT: Cooperative Department of Defense (DoD)/Veterans Affairs (VA)
Separation and Retirement Process/Physical Examinations Program for Soldiers
Applying for VA Compensation and Pension Benefits

1. References.

a. Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the Under Secretary for Defense (Personnel & Readiness) and Deputy Secretary, Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), subject: "Implementation of Cooperative Separation Process/Examinations for the Department of Defense and the Department of Veterans Affairs at Benefits Delivery at Discharge sites," 19 Nov 04.

b. AR 40-501, Standards of Medical Fitness, Section 8-23, "Separation and retirement examinations," 1 Feb 05.

c. DD Form 2697, Report of Medical Assessment.

2. The ability and process for DoD military treatment facilities (MTFs) and their VA partners to perform the current "VA/DoD single separation physical" were reevaluated, and new guidance in the form of a new national MOA was released (enclosure 1). Implementation guidance for this new cooperative separation process/physical examination was completed by 31 Mar 05. The Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) Benefits Delivery at Discharge (BDD) Program has the lead in this initiative.

3. The purpose of the new national MOA is to support the seamless transition for the greatest number of identified Soldiers and provide assistance to the VA in accomplishing the tasks required for appropriate and timely adjudication of VA compensation and pension (C&P) claims of identified Soldiers prior to their separation or retirement from military service.

4. The target population was identified in this new MOA; only AC and RC Soldiers on permanent, full-time active duty status will be considered in the establishment of new or revised VA/DoD MTF agreements. Due to the unique nature and time constraints of the Medical Evaluation Board (MEB)/Physical Evaluation Board (PEB) process, Soldiers involved MEB/PEB actions are now excluded as a target population for this new cooperative separation or retirement process. The cooperative process

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should focus on Soldiers who are expected to, or who might, file claims for active duty military service-connected disability or injury for VA compensation and pension purposes. This process is initiated when the Soldier acknowledges his/her intent to file for VA C&P benefits by answering "Yes" to item #18 of DD Form 2697, Report of Medical Assessment (enclosure 2).

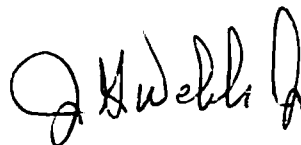
5. The emphasis on a single VA/DoD separation physical has been reduced. Changes in DoD philosophy regarding routine and periodic physical examination, as well as lessons learned at our MTFs attempting to execute current MOUs with the VA regarding same, resulted in a new MOA with emphasis on a cooperative process to support Soldiers in accomplishing the required tasks involved in a VA C&P claims adjudication process. The completion of VA C&P physical examinations to support the VA claims adjudication process is a core VA responsibility as reiterated in the new MOA. Only MEDCOM MTFs with established and mature working relationships with the VA and the VBA-BDD programs have been able to successfully execute and maintain a single VA/DoD separation physical examination. Any MEDCOM MTF that has a well-established and productive VA/DoD separation and retirement process is allowed to retain its process as long as it meets the scope and responsibilities documented in the new national MOA.

6. MEDCOM MTFs participating in this program will continue to comply with DoD and Service-specific discharge, retirement, and separation requirements contained in all appropriately related Department of the Army Regulations, Department of Defense Directives, Department of Defense Instructions, and Assistant Secretary of Defense (Health Affairs) policy Memoranda.

7. For this program to be successful, MEDCOM MTFs must provide as much support as possible to assist the VA and Soldiers in efforts to accomplish the VA C&P physical process within a 180-day window from separation or retirement from military service. Enclosure 3 contains MEDCOM specific guidance regarding individual program operational procedures.

8. Our points of contact are LTC Tony Halstead and Veronica Singfield, Health Policy and Services Directorate, OTSG, (703) 681-1856.

FOR THE COMMANDER:



JOSEPH G. WEBB, JR.
Major General
Chief of Staff

3 Encls

**MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT
BETWEEN
DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
AND
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE**

SUBJECT: Implementation of Cooperative Separation Process/Examinations for the Department of Defense and the Department of Veterans Affairs at Benefits Delivery at Discharge sites

1. **PURPOSE:** This Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and the Department of Defense (DoD) provides the conditions, stipulations, and responsibilities of each party to support a cooperative separation process that will meet the needs of VA disability compensation evaluation and DoD separation/retirement assessment. This MOA provides the framework for a streamlined transition process for separating/retiring service members who intend to file a claim for VA disability benefits. This MOA is not applicable to active duty personnel referred to the DoD Disability Evaluation System (MEB/PEB process).

2. **BACKGROUND:** Active component (AC) service members and reserve component (RC) service members on permanent full-time active duty status separating from their active duty obligation or retiring from military service who also intend to file a claim for VA disability compensation must undergo assessment(s) that generate clinical information sufficient to demonstrate that he or she is fit to separate from active duty or retire from military service and to successfully adjudicate his/her disability compensation claim. To fulfill such requirements in the past, the service member underwent two separate physical examinations within months of each other because neither of the examinations fully satisfied the needs of both VA and DoD. A redundant examination process is inconvenient to veterans and service members, delays claims processing and access to VA healthcare, and creates an added cost to the Federal government. Streamlining the process without compromising the gathering of information critical to fulfilling the requirements for both departments was the goal of the creation of DD Form 2697, Report of Medical Assessment, which DoD/VA developed as the required means to communicate to VA the medical condition of the applicant at the time of separation.

In 1994, the Army agreed to participate in a test with VA to determine if one separation physical examination could satisfy the needs of both VA and the Army. The test was conducted during 1996 and 1997 at three Army installations and was supported by three Veterans Health Administration (VHA) medical centers, three Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) regional offices (ROs), and the VA Records Management Center. A final report on this test concluded that the Army separation exam, as it existed in 1994, could be combined with the VA disability evaluation. It also contained a recommendation that some form of a combined process could be expanded to all

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military services. Since that time, 28 individual Benefits Delivery at Discharge (BDD) sites across the country have developed their own Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) under which they have been providing a cooperative separation examination to individuals who intend to file a claim for VA disability compensation following discharge. The three Service Medical Departments have implemented or are in the process of implementing the recommendations of past VA/DoD efforts. This MOA provides overarching guidance that builds upon the successes of all cooperative efforts to date. Once Military Treatment Facility (MTF) and BDD site MOUs are executed, they will continue to be honored when leadership on either side changes. Revisions to local MOUs are permissible to address greater cooperation and changes in resources but will be subject to conformance to the scope and responsibilities documented in this MOA.

3. SCOPE: Those members affected by this MOA are AC and RC service members on permanent full-time active duty status who are within 180 days of separating from their active duty service obligation or retiring from military service and who intend to file a claim with VA for compensation based on disabilities incurred or aggravated while on active duty. All military personnel participating in transition seminars will be informed of the VA claims application procedures. Those wishing to participate in the cooperative separation examination process must complete VA Form 21-526, Application for Compensation or Pension (or the electronic equivalent), and submit it, along with a copy of their service medical records (SMRs) to VA. (Service medical records, in DoD terminology, are health treatment records.)

4. RESPONSIBILITIES: Both departments will continue to commit appropriate resources to ensure that separation examination processes are adequate to meet both agencies' needs for separation and disability evaluation. VA and DoD will determine at the local level how to implement this agreement by evaluating which entity has the available medical resources (examining physicians, laboratory facilities, examination rooms, and support staff) to conduct examinations and any additional testing and/or screening. VA disability examination protocols will be used to conduct examinations to ensure that VA can evaluate the disability(ies) according to Title 38 of the Code of Federal Regulations.

Convenience of the service member should be considered. When a VA medical facility is not in close proximity to an MTF, VA physicians, VA-contracted physicians, or DoD physicians may conduct the examination at the MTF. VA representatives entering into agreements for contract or DoD-performed cooperative separation examinations will ensure that ongoing VA sponsored training and quality oversight are included in the MOU.

a. The Department of Veterans Affairs will:

(1) Conduct cooperative separation examinations for the BDD process using

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not only VA's examination protocols but also Service-recommended laboratory tests and screenings, when applicable. VA, in coordination with the DoD MTF, will determine how close to discharge examinations can be conducted for the BDD program.

(2) Complete examinations no earlier than 180 days prior to the scheduled separation/retirement date.

(3) Provide copies of completed medical examination reports in a narrative format to the DoD MTF's separation processing center(s) for inclusion in the service member's original health treatment records. Where abnormal findings (e.g., clinical findings or laboratory results) are identified during the examination, the service member, and the service member's primary care manager (PCM) will be advised of the findings.

(4) Provide VA-published examination forms and worksheets.

(5) Avoid duplication of DoD's hospital examination/test results and treatments.

(6) Publicize the availability of this cooperative separation process at all existing BDD sites through the transition assistance and pre-separation programs. Additionally, publicize to service members that if their DD 214, Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty, is marked "NO" in Block 17, they are eligible for a one-time dental benefit through VA subject to the requirements/limitations defined in Title 38 USC. Such service members should be informed that they have 90 days from the date of their release from active duty (REFRAD) to contact VA to apply for the dental benefit.

(7) Conduct VA disability examinations within DoD MTFs where cooperative opportunities exist.

(8) Record and track disability examinations and provide the MTF data and numbers on a quarterly basis when requested.

b. The Department of Defense will:

(1) Conduct appropriate service directed examinations or health assessments for separating service members.

(2) Complete DD Form 2697 no earlier than 180 days prior to the scheduled separation/retirement date.

(3) Use VA's examinations protocols and include Service-recommended laboratory tests and screenings when conducting cooperative separation examinations

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for the BDD program. DoD, in coordination with the VA, will determine how close to discharge examinations can be conducted for the BDD program.

(4) Provide copies of completed medical examination reports, pertinent laboratory and radiology reports, and DD Form 2697, to the VBA BDD and the MTF's separation processing center(s) for inclusion in the service member's original health treatment records. Where abnormal findings (e.g., clinical findings or laboratory results) are identified during the examination, the service member, and the service member's primary care manager (PCM) will be advised of the findings.

(5) Ensure that appropriate medical care is provided for medical conditions found during examination/assessment that require treatment.

(6) Publicize to service members that if their DD 214 is marked "NO" in Block 17, they are eligible for a one-time dental benefit through VA subject to the requirements/limitations defined in Title 38 USC. Such service members should be informed that they have 90 days from the date of their release from active duty (REFRAD) to contact VA to apply for the dental benefit.

c. VA and DoD will:

VA and DoD agree to work toward a single electronic physical examination. As part of this effort, VA and DoD will define requirements which are consistent across the military services and the VA. VA and DoD also agree to begin exploring the technical feasibility, schedule and cost requirements for the implementation of an electronic physical exam.

5. EFFECTIVE DATE, TERMS OF MODIFICATION, TERMINATION:

a. This agreement provides a framework for local MOUs that will address the specifics needed to implement this program.

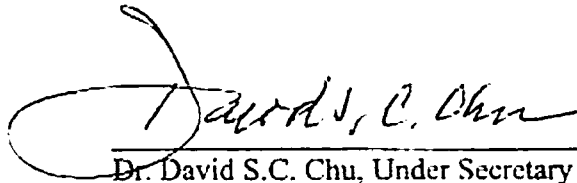
b. Implementing guidance shall be issued no later than March 31, 2005.

c. This agreement will be effective as of the date of the last signature.

d. Requests for modification of this agreement will be submitted in writing from one party to the other, not less than 30 days prior to the desired effective date of such modification.

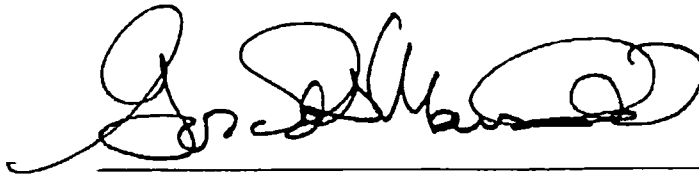
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e. This agreement will be renewed automatically on its anniversary date unless either party gives a written 90-day notice of termination.



Dr. David S.C. Chu, Under Secretary for Defense
Personnel and Readiness
Department of Defense

17 Nov 04
Date



Gordon H. Mansfield, Deputy Secretary
Department of Veterans Affairs

Nov 17, 2004
Date

DD Form 2697, Report of Medical Assessment

REPORT OF MEDICAL ASSESSMENT				REPORT CONTROL SYMBOL DD-HA(AR)1939	
<p align="center">PRIVACY ACT STATEMENT</p> <p>AUTHORITY: PL 103-160, EO 9397. PRINCIPAL PURPOSE: To be used by the Medical Services to provide a comprehensive medical assessment for active and reserve component service members separating or retiring from active duty. ROUTINE USES: A copy of this form will be released to the Department of Veterans Affairs. DISCLOSURE: Voluntary; however, failure to disclose the requested personal information may result in delay in processing any disability claim.</p>					
SECTION I - TO BE COMPLETED BY SERVICE MEMBER. Any service member who requests a physical examination may have one.					
1. NAME (Last, First, Middle)		2. SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER		3. RANK	
4. COMPONENT		5. UNIT OF ASSIGNMENT			
6a. HOME STREET ADDRESS (Or RFD, including apartment number)		b. CITY	c. STATE	d. ZIP CODE	7. HOME TELEPHONE NUMBER (Include area code)
8. DATE OF LAST PHYSICAL EXAMINATION BY THE MILITARY (YYMMDD)			9. DATE ENTERED ON CURRENT ACTIVE DUTY (YYMMDD)		
10. COMPARED TO MY LAST MEDICAL ASSESSMENT/PHYSICAL EXAMINATION, MY OVERALL HEALTH IS (X one. If "Worse," explain.) <input type="checkbox"/> THE SAME <input type="checkbox"/> BETTER <input type="checkbox"/> WORSE					
11. SINCE YOUR LAST MEDICAL ASSESSMENT/PHYSICAL EXAMINATION, HAVE YOU HAD ANY ILLNESSES OR INJURIES THAT CAUSED YOU TO MISS DUTY FOR LONGER THAN 3 DAYS? (X one. If "Yes," explain.) <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> YES					
12. SINCE YOUR LAST MEDICAL ASSESSMENT/PHYSICAL EXAMINATION, HAVE YOU BEEN SEEN BY OR BEEN TREATED BY A HEALTH CARE PROVIDER, ADMITTED TO A HOSPITAL, OR HAD SURGERY? (X one. If "Yes," explain.) <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> YES					
13. HAVE YOU SUFFERED FROM ANY INJURY OR ILLNESS WHILE ON ACTIVE DUTY FOR WHICH YOU DID NOT SEEK MEDICAL CARE? (X one. If "Yes," explain.) <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> YES					
14. ARE YOU NOW TAKING ANY MEDICATIONS? (X one. If "Yes," list medications.) <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> YES					
15. DO YOU HAVE ANY CONDITIONS WHICH CURRENTLY LIMIT YOUR ABILITY TO WORK IN YOUR PRIMARY MILITARY SPECIALTY OR REQUIRE GEOGRAPHIC OR ASSIGNMENT LIMITATIONS? (X one. If "Yes," explain.) <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> YES					
16. DO YOU HAVE ANY DENTAL PROBLEMS? (X one. If "Yes," explain.) <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> YES					
17. DO YOU HAVE ANY OTHER QUESTIONS OR CONCERN ABOUT YOUR HEALTH? (X one. If "Yes," explain.) <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> YES					
18. AT THE PRESENT TIME, DO YOU INTEND TO SEEK DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS (VA) DISABILITY? (X one. If "Yes," list conditions for which you will ask for VA Disability.) <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> UNCERTAIN					
19. CERTIFICATION. I certify that the information provided above is true and complete to the best of my knowledge.					
a. SIGNATURE OF SERVICE MEMBER				b. DATE SIGNED	

DD FORM 2697, FEB 95 (EG)

Designed using PerForm Pro. WHS/DIOR, Feb 95

SECTION II - TO BE COMPLETED BY INDIVIDUALLY PRIVILEGED HEALTH CARE PROVIDER					
<p>This Report of Medical Assessment is to be used by the Medical Services to provide a comprehensive medical assessment for active and reserve component service members separating or retiring from active duty. The assessment will cover, as a minimum, the period since the service member's last medical assessment/physical examination, or the period of this call or order to active duty. Any service member who requests a physical examination may have one. Any service member who has indicated "yes" to Item 18 will have an appropriate physical examination, if the last examination is more than 12 months old and/or there are new signs and/or symptoms. If the service member answers "Worse" to Item 10 or "Yes" to Items 11, 12, or 14 through 18, documentation of the injury, illness, or problem should be included in the service member's medical or dental record.</p>					
<p>20. HEALTH CARE PROVIDER COMMENTS (All patient complaints must be addressed)</p> <div style="height: 300px; border: 1px solid black;"></div>					
<p>21. WAS PATIENT REFERRED FOR FURTHER EVALUATION? (X one. If "Yes," specify where.)</p> <div style="display: flex; align-items: flex-start;"> <div style="margin-right: 10px;"> <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> YES </div> </div>					
<p>22. PURPOSE OF ASSESSMENT (X one. If "Other," explain.)</p> <div style="display: flex; align-items: flex-start;"> <div style="margin-right: 10px;"> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> </div> <div> SEPARATION (Includes discharge from military service and release from active duty, including release of National Guard and Reserve personnel voluntarily or involuntarily called or ordered to active duty.) RETIREMENT OTHER </div> </div>					
<p>23. MEDICAL FACILITY</p>	<p>24. DATE OF ASSESSMENT (YYMMDD)</p>				
<p>25. HEALTH CARE PROVIDER</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 40%; padding: 5px; vertical-align: top;"> <p>a. NAME (Last, First, Middle Initial)</p> </td> <td style="width: 20%; padding: 5px; vertical-align: top;"> <p>b. GRADE/RANK</p> </td> <td style="width: 40%; padding: 5px; vertical-align: top;"> <p>c. SIGNATURE</p> </td> </tr> </table>			<p>a. NAME (Last, First, Middle Initial)</p>	<p>b. GRADE/RANK</p>	<p>c. SIGNATURE</p>
<p>a. NAME (Last, First, Middle Initial)</p>	<p>b. GRADE/RANK</p>	<p>c. SIGNATURE</p>			

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MTF Internal/External Program Procedures Regarding
VA/DoD Cooperative Separation Process/Examinations
MEDCOM Specific Guidance

1. In order to maximize the effectiveness and the efficiency of the Cooperative VA/DoD Separation Process/Examinations program, the participating VA Directors and MEDCOM MTF Commanders need to continually develop and foster cooperative relationships. The Veterans Health Administration (VHA) with lead from the Veterans Benefits Administration's (VBA) Benefits Delivery at Discharge (BDD) programs have been actively contacting our MTFs to initiate or re-look existing MOUs to facilitate the new national MOA: "Cooperative Separation Process/ Examinations." The main deliverable of this cooperative process is a core function of the VBA/VHA and thus they have been lead on making contact with our MTFs. Prior to receipt of this MEDCOM Specific Guidance, most MEDCOM MTFs should have already signed a new or renewed MOU.

2. The purpose of this guidance is to aid in completion of, and/or provides a quality check to, the MTF's internal/external operating procedures regarding the VA/DoD cooperative separation process. Like all other existing VA/DoD Resources Sharing agreements, MTF/RMCs legal review should have been accomplished on the MOU, and if necessary, regarding the operating procedures. At a minimum, the MTFs internal operating procedures should identify and involve all applicable components (Medical Records, Personnel, Separations/Retirement Briefings, DD Form 2697 completion, etc) to ensure on-going active involvement and compliance with the cooperative separation process. Part of the new national MOA is focusing on continuity of the cooperative program during command changes. Keeping processes simple, yet effective will always aid in the continuity of a program.

3. The AMEDD is in full support of the new emphasis for a "cooperative process." Recent findings by the Government Accountability Office (GAO) helped to illustrate the need to better define the process versus the pure single exam focus. Refer to GAO-05-64, "Efforts to Coordinate a Single Physical Exam Process for Servicemembers Leaving the Military", <http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d0564.pdf> , pages 5-6 and 9-10 for information on some of the history involved in the VA/DoD separation physical process. This GAO report did not present as favorable to either departments' efforts on a cooperative single exam process. This report has several errors and the AMEDD non-concurred with its findings. Page 36 of the GAO report shows the DoD response. The DoD supports a cooperative "process" to meet the needs of our separating Soldiers.

4. Coordination:

a. The Veterans Integrated Service Network (VISN) Directors and the VBA Area Directors will consult, cooperate, and coordinate with their DoD counterparts.

b. It will also be the responsibility of the above Directors and Commanders to determine, or to find effective means for performing the required Cooperative Separation Process/Examinations program.

c. It will be the responsibility of the VISN Directors and the RMC Commanders to work out any problems encountered locally, before referring any unresolved problems up their respective chains of command.

5. Potential Separation Process/Examinations Models: The 1998 implementation of the VA/DoD single separation physical examination attempted to define potential delivery models for conducting a single separation physical examination. The main focus of that original national MOU was on a single physical examination that met both departments' requirements. A single examination is a desirable outcome; however, its use must be agreed on by all parties and coordinated extensively to be effective. If a single examination process is determined to be executable by all parties, the site(s) conducting the single examination(s), whether at a VA, at a MEDCOM MTF, or VA contracted site, the process and delivery mechanism will be determined by the parties to the Agreement. Regardless of the program model for execution of this new cooperative separation process, Army requirements for the discharge, retirement, or separation physical examinations, as well as VA C&P physical examination protocols must be followed. Hopefully the sites can accomplish these requirements within a single examination model(s), but there is no mandated requirement to meet the single exam deliverable. The historical five models were:

Model 1: The physical examination(s) are conducted at a VA Medical Center (VAMC) by VA healthcare providers.

Model 2: The physical examination(s) are conducted at a MEDCOM MTF by VA healthcare providers.

Model 3: The physical examination(s) are a shared, or a joint responsibility between the VA and MEDCOM, with each entity conducting certain, or particular elements, or parts of the physical examination(s).

Model 4: All aspects of the physical examination(s) are done at MEDCOM MTFs utilizing their facility's healthcare providers.

Model 5: The physical examination(s) are performed by contract healthcare providers financed by the VA at a specified location.

6. Completion of DD Form 2697:

a. AR 40-501, Section 8-23.a states that the DD Form 2697 is to be completed by a physician, physician assistant, or nurse practitioner to document any complaints or potential service-related (incurred or aggravated) illness or injury. Since this cooperative separation process is dependent on knowledge of the Soldiers intent to file for VA C&P benefits, proper and complete execution of DD Form 2697 is required. This step must not be initiated earlier than 180 days prior to discharge, but in order to meet

the intent of this cooperative separation effort, the DD Form 2697 must be accomplished with sufficient active duty time remaining to accomplish the tasks involved in the C&P process.

b. The genesis of DD Form 2697 was in response to directions from a House Committee on Armed Services in 1993 to implement a department wide policy, by regulation, for each servicemember to receive a comprehensive medical interview before separating from active duty, as well as a comprehensive physical evaluation upon identification of complaints, illnesses, or injury. The addition of item #18 to the form was a logical step as this acts as the "trigger" point that starts a Soldier into the cooperative VA/DoD effort.

7. Resource Issues: MTF expenditures to execute subject agreements should be minimal and must be resourced within existing funding. The target population for this joint initiative has not expanded and the AMEDD has supported this effort since 1998. By the simple act of sharing recent physical examination findings, lab results, radiological results, etc. the number of duplicate tests performed will be reduced. This will provide for total governmental cost savings. In addition, the typical costs to resolve an original VA compensation claim should also be reduced, because of the immediate availability of full medical records at the respective discharge, or separation sites.

8. Data Collection: The VA and their BDD programs are the responsible agents for collecting data on Soldiers involved in the VA C&P benefit process. The VA and their BDD programs will provide this information to our MEDCOM MTFs. For some, the MOU may stipulate the frequency (at least quarterly) and type of information the VA should provide the MEDCOM MTF. For others, data collection procedures should be formalized and may reside outside the official MOU language. The VBA's BDD Program is fine-tuning their data collection, so this deliverable will evolve with time. However, the VBA BDD Program's database should provide the MTFs with both historical and current numbers of Soldiers processing or have processed for VA C&P benefits.

9. Reportable Data to AMEDD Higher Headquarters: MEDCOM and the AMEDD VA/DoD Healthcare Resources Sharing Program will require the MTFs to provide quarterly data. At a minimum, the core reportable requirements will be:

a. New/renewed MOU completion status.

b. Numbers of Soldiers processing through the cooperative separation process.

c. Site specific historical numbers of Soldiers that processed for VA C&P Benefits; while still on active duty, or completion after discharge. This is important to provide a baseline and better understand the potential site specific requirements based on volume.

10. The ability to identify duplicative physicals on our Soldiers has proven to be problematic. This was a reportable metric in the past, but our DoD systems do not have

the capability to capture this data in a consistent and reliable fashion. One measure of success of this cooperative initiative will relate to the convenience of the Soldier in accomplishing the VA's C&P physical prior to his/her discharge from active duty and the rapid adjudication of the VA disability claim on discharge. Complete medical records transfer during this process will also aid in the seamless transition from Soldier to VA beneficiary.

11. Filing of Completed MOUs: On completion of the MOU, the MTFs must send a signed copy to MEDCOM, TRICARE Operations Division, attention David-Ilex Talley David-Ilex.Talley@CEN.AMEDD.ARMY.MIL for appropriate filing. A copy should also be provided to your MTF Support Agreement Manager.